ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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YAKUTAT SUBSISTENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

Yakutat....The Alaska Department of Fish and Game today announced the following information concerning the **Yakutat Area subsistence fishery**:

<u>Yakutat Bay</u>: **Effective immediately,** the weekly subsistence fishing period for Yakutat Bay will be from 12:01 a.m., Wednesday through 11:59 p.m., Saturday. The subsistence period for this week will close at 11:59 p.m., Saturday, May 4. This subsistence fishing period for Yakutat Bay will remain in effect for the duration of the spring commercial troll fishery.

<u>Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet</u>: subsistence fishing for Chinook salmon will close until further notice at **6:00 a.m., Sunday, May 19**. Chinook salmon may not be retained in the sockeye salmon subsistence fishery.

Both the new commercial spring troll fishery and the Yakutat Bay setnet subsistence fishery primarily target Chinook salmon. The subsistence period for Yakutat Bay is being adjusted to maintain separation of the fish harvested in the two types of gear.

The Chinook salmon subsistence fishery is closed in the Situk Inlet in accordance with the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet and Lost River King Salmon Fisheries Management Plan. The preseason forecast of the Situk River Chinook salmon return suggests that the return will be below desired levels and conservative actions are required to limit harvest on the stock.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1Y0113.

News releases web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

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